



As part of the Rio Texas Conference Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Safety Policy, all persons in ministry with these populations must be certified every two years. **Congratulations**, you've completed two (or more!) years of ministry. When your certification expiration date is 90 days out, you will receive a reminder email from Safe Gatherings that it is time to renew. To re-certify, follow these three steps:

TRUSTED CON CONFIANZA RECERTIFICATION

1. REGISTER WITH SAFE GATHERINGS

Follow the link in your renewal email within two weeks or you'll have to request a new link. You can also log directly into your safegatherings.com account.

- If your previous certification is not expired, click that you are still serving First United Methodist Church of Austin to begin the application process.
- Please select the driver record box **ONLY** if you will be driving for mission trips or other church-related activities (including youth events).
- References:
 - **DO NOT** list Pastor Taylor Fuerst as your clergy reference (she receives all requests automatically)
 - You **CAN** list Pastor Cathy Stone or Pastor Brad King as your clergy reference.
 - All references, including pastors, **MUST** have known you at least 6 months.
 - You **MAY** use another professional reference instead of a pastor.
 - FUMC lay staff members are happy to serve as your lay reference.
 - References **WILL** be emailed, so please use someone you know personally and notify them to expect a message that requires a response.

2. COMPLETE THE SAFE GATHERINGS ONLINE TRAINING COURSE

The Safe Gatherings training is a 60-90 minute course on safety guidelines and best practices as defined by the state of Texas. It can be completed in sections at your convenience. A final test is required.

3. ATTEND A TRUSTED CON CONFIANZA RECERTIFICATION FACILITATED SESSION

Once you have completed Step 2, you will receive an email from Tanya Campen at the Rio Texas Conference office with a link to sign up for available online webinars. **REGISTER** for and attend a 1-hour recertification facilitated session. Or, alternatively, you are welcome to attend any regular 2-hour facilitated session (listed online at riotexas.org/safetrainings).

Your certification is **NOT** complete until all three steps have been finished. You can check the status of your application on your dashboard at any time. The church receives notification when you are cleared to participate in ministry. For technical questions, contact Safe Gatherings at (888) 241-8258 or contact@safegatherings.com. For policy or FUMC questions, contact Safety Policy Administrator Emily Buchanan at emily@fumcaustin.org.

Thank you for your dedication and your service!